

Message Text

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42

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 AID-05 IO-10

OMB-01 EUR-12 /090 W

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P 211230Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 970

INFO DOD/PA PRIORITY

CNO

CINCEUR

CINCUSNAVEUR

COMSIXTHFLT

CTF SIX FIVE

USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS CAIRO 10429

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (DATE IN FIRST PARA OF PRESS RELEASE -
DEC 27 VICE 22)

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: MILI PFOR SOPN EG US

SUBJECT: PRESS RELEASE - DEPARTURE OF RADM CARROLL, CTF 65

EMBASSY ISSUING TODAY FOLLOWING LOW KEY PRESS RELEASE ON
DEPARTURE CTF S65 RADM CARROLL WHICH AMBASSADOR TOOK
OPPORTUNITY TO CLEAR WITH FONMIN FAHMY WHEN SEEING HIM
ON ANOTHER MATTER:

BEGIN TEXT:

DEPARTURE OF REAR ADMIRAL CARROLL
COMMANDER OF U.S. NAVY TASK FORCE 65

REAR ADMIRAL KENT J. CARROLL, UNITED STATES NAVY, WHO
HAS COMMANDED TASK FORCE 65, WILL DEPART FROM EGYPT ON
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DECEMBER 27. ADMIRAL CARROLL'S RETURN TO THE UNITED STATES

MARKS THE COMPLETION OF A MAJOR PORTION OF THE AMERICAN MISSION TO ASSIST IN THE SUEZ CANAL CLEARANCE AND SALVAGE OPERATIONS.

THE CLEARANCE OPERATIONS HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY SINCE LAST APRIL. THEY HAVE INVOLVED DETACHMENTS FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVY, ARMY, AIR FORCE AND MARINE CORPS ALONG WITH VARIOUS SHIPS OF THE UNITED STATES NAVY. ALL UNITED STATES FORCES INVOLVED HAVE OPERATED IN SUPPORT OF AND IN COOPERATION WITH THE EGYPTIAN NAVY AND THE SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY. NAVAL FORCES FROM BRITAIN AND FRANCE HAVE ALSO BEEN ACTIVE PARTICIPANTS IN THIS EFFORT, AND THE ENTIRE OPERATION HAS BEEN CONDUCTED IN THE TRUE SPIRIT OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.

THESE UNITED STATES FORCES WERE DEPLOYED IN THE CONTEXT OF UNITED STATES READINESS TO ASSIST THE GOVERNMENT OF EGYPT TO REMOVE ORDNANCE AND SUNKEN VESSELS OBSTRUCTING THE SUEZ CANAL. THE OPERATIONS CONDUCTED TO DATE HAVE BEEN DIVIDED INTO FOUR PHASES: THE AERIAL MINE SWEEPING OF THE SUEZ CANAL BY U.S. NAVY HELICOPTERS; THE TRAINING OF EGYPTIAN ARMY PERSONNEL BY U.S. ARMY EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EXPERTS; THE SALVAGE OF 10 SUNKEN WRECKS FROM THE CANAL BY A U.S. COMMERCIAL SALVAGE FIRM, MURPHY PACIFIC MARINE SALVAGE COMPANY OF CALIFORNIA, UNDER CONTRACT TO THE U.S. NAVY,; AND UNDERWATER SEARCHES FOR UNEXPLODED ORDNANCE ON THE BOTTOM OF THE CANAL CONDUCTED BY U.S., EGYPTIAN, BRITISH AND FRENCH NAVAL FORCES.

CONSIDERABLE WORK STILL REMAINS TO BE DONE BEFORE THE CANAL WILL BE READY FOR NORMAL OPERATIONS. NAVIGATION AND COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS WILL HAVE TO BE RESTORED BEFORE THE CANAL CAN BE RETURNED TO ITS PRE-1967 CONDITION. SOME DREDGING, PARTICULARLY IN THE LOCATIONS FROM WHICH SUNKEN WRECKS HAVE BEEN REMOVED, WILL ALSO BE NECESSARY. EGYPTIAN EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL EXPERTS CONTINUE TO EXPLORE THE CANAL BOTTOM TO CLEAR ANY EXPLOSIVE OBJECTS WHICH MAY REMAIN. THEY WILL BE SUPPORTED IN THIS WORK BY A U.S. NAVY SALVAGE SHIP, USS ESCAPE (ARS-6), AND BY A SMALL NAVAL EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE DISPOSAL COMPONENT

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WHICH WILL STAY IN THE CANAL AREA TO ASSIST IN THE CONTINUING CANAL CLEARANCE OPERATIONS.

END TEXT.
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Message Attributes

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Subject: PRESS RELEASE - DEPARTURE OF RADM CARROLL, CTF 65 EMBASSY ISSUING TODAY FOLLOWING LOW KEY PRESS RELEASE ON
TAGS: MILI, PFOR, SOPN, EG, US, (CARROLL, KENT J)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005